

Act 46 Criteria: Accelerated Mergers

Please fill in the following fields. If you come to a point that instructs you to STOP, your SU is not ready to pursue an Accelerated Merger. If you are able to complete this page without getting to a STOP, please proceed to Page 2.

Criteria	SU description of evidence
Do you have at least 900 students in your new proposed system?	<p>If no, STOP.</p> <p>If yes, check here <input type="checkbox"/> record the number _____, and continue.</p>
Are all member districts in your SU part of the proposed merger?	<p>If no, STOP.</p> <p>If yes, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and continue.</p>
Is your SU proposing to merge with a neighboring Supervisory District?	<p>If no, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and continue.</p> <p>If yes, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and continue.</p>
Are you able to bring this proposal to voters in every participating town prior to July 1, 2016?	<p>If no, STOP.</p> <p>If yes, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and continue.</p>
Which of the preferred structures listed on the right will your proposed district have?	<input type="checkbox"/> District that operates a school or schools for all resident students in prekindergarten or kindergarten through grade 12;
	<input type="checkbox"/> District that operates a school or schools for all resident students in prekindergarten or kindergarten through grade 8 and pays tuition for all resident students in grade 9 through grade 12;
	<input type="checkbox"/> District that operates a school or schools for all resident students in prekindergarten or kindergarten through grade 6 and pays tuition for resident students in grade 7 through grade 12.
	<input type="checkbox"/> If none of the above, check here and STOP .

Please fill in the following fields. Please note that the fields require thorough yet concise statements of the *progress made to date* and the intended future steps. The report you will submit to the State Board of Education needs to comply with the provisions of 16 V.S.A. § 706, and these pages capture critical components required by Act 46 to be completed before a report can be submitted.

Criteria	SU Description of Evidence
<p>Education quality: Demonstrating the intent of the new district to meet the goals in A. 46, Section 2:</p> <p><i>Include a mission statement that clearly articulates learning goals and opportunities to learn that your system will provide to all students, as well sample indicators to track progress in the unified system. Please consider both the impact on educational quality and equity.</i></p>	
<p>Communication strategy</p> <p><i>Describe your communication strategy. How have your citizens and stakeholders been engaged:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Petition or vote to authorize a study?</i> • <i>Planning committees?</i> • <i>Articulation of goals/mission?</i> • <i>Public input on options?</i> • <i>Public mailings and/or informational meetings?</i> 	
<p>Governance structure</p> <p><i>Describe the governance structure of your new entity. Also, what are the roles of the Board, the Superintendent, the Building Principals, and local school councils/advisory bodies?</i></p>	

Impact on neighbors <i>What is the impact of the merger on the merging districts? What is the impact of the merger on neighboring districts?</i>	
Central office: unification and staffing <i>What is the planned structure and staffing of the new central office?</i>	
Transition board structure <i>Describe the structure and operation of the Transition Board.</i>	
Tax consequences <i>What are the current tax rates in the merging districts? What tax impact will the merger incentives have?</i>	
<p>Education Plan: Have you completed a district education plan and relevant performance indicators?</p> <p>If no, STOP. If yes, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and continue.</p> <p>Education Plan: In your plan, were you able to describe any improvements or an expansion of opportunities to learn that you can achieve in a unified system?</p> <p>If no, STOP. If yes, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and continue.</p> <p>Articles of Agreement: Have you completed articles of agreement in which you outline how your new unified district will be governed?</p> <p>If no, STOP.</p> <p>If yes, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and continue.</p>	